

Elser and Dymewood, in a house in *Wansworth*, whether hee
was conuayed by the meanes of one Iohn Powell yeoman of
the bottels in her maiesties house, who comming to the res-
cue, pursued the murtherer untill hee shrouded him selfe in a
thicke wood, where he might easilie haue kept him selfe close
a long time, but that the prouidence of God hauing now taken
place to punish, where before the deuill had kept possession, for
sin he wold not suffer him to rest, but so soone as it was night,
brought him backe to *Wansworth*, and the first house he came to
was y^e house wherin y^e breathles bodie of the Lord Bourgh lay,
wherunto he was no sooner appoched (which is a thing especia-
lly to be noted,) but his wounds bled more freshlie then when
the were first giuen, whereby the people in the house being a-
gast at that suddaine and straunge spectacle made forth to
search, for surelie they supposed the murtherer was not farre
off, he hearing the noyse of their comming, fledde to *Newinton*,
where he was apprehended and caried to *Helwgate*, and from
thence brought the five and twentieth daye of *Ianuarie* to the
Sessions house in *Southwarke*, where he was arraigned and
condemned of wilfull murder, which murther he had commit-
ted the fourth day of the same month. And thus haue I disbur-
dened the heauy clogge of my græued conscience, and done my
latestt duetie to him dead, whom whilest he liued, I loued and
honoured.

Then Noble mindes, whose heartes full of lenitie harbour no suspicion of
treacherie, banishe all secure, mildnesse from your soules, that suffers euerie
base, and ignoble Sicophante to enchroche into the leniry of your fauora-
ble conceite. And nourish not with your courteous countenance, the con-
temptuous aspirers of inferiour reputation: For thereby groweth such bo-
sting vanitie from the baser insolent, that would frame nobilitie to the infe-
riour tipe of their vnworthines. As well is manifested by the sodaine death
of this noble gentleman, and the published villanie of this tragicall mur-
ther, a sufficient cauat for euery mistrustlesse minde to be admonished.

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13
A briefe Discourse of the
most haynous and traytorlike fact

Thomas Appeltree:
for which hee shoulde haue suffred Death on
Euisday the one and twentieth of Iulie last:
wherin is set downe his Confession.

Wherevnto is annexed, the Report of the
message sent to the place of execution from hir
most excellent Maiestie, by the right ho-
nourable *Sir Christopher Hatton*
Knight, Vizchamberlain
to hir highnesse.



AT LONDON,
Imprinted by Henry Bynneman.
Anno Domini. 1579.

To the Reader.



Or as much as the nature of man is affected to listen after newes, by the report whereof either the minde is delighted, or else stricken with fear, I haue thought it conuenient to publish vnto all the worlde, and namely to all good and godly subiects, a thing of no small importancke, verie strange, and not so strange, as most certaine true. May it therefore please thee to peruse this little booke, wherein as in a looking glasse, thou shalt beholde to thy great comfort, the verie effectes of iustice, iustlie executed against an offender, worthilie condemned to death: and further, thou shalt to thy ioy beholde the rare and singular mercies offered vnto him, that had most grienously trespassed against the royal estate of this noble realme of England, euen by the Queenes most excellent maiestie, for whose prosperitie all faithfull heartes are bound continuallie to praise to the Almighty, who guide and gouerne hir, highnesse with his holie spirite, poure vpon hir the euerspring deawes of his heauenlie grace, prosper hir in all hir affaires, graunt hir long life, health, peace, and quietnesse of bodie and minde, where vnto all true harted subiectes vouchsafe with me to say.

AMEN.





The. 17. day of July this present yere of our Lord
God. 1579. the Quēnes most excellent Maieſtie
being on the river of Thames, betwixt byr high-
nelle Manour of Grenewich, and Detforde, in
hir priuie Barge, accompanied with Mounſier
Schemere the French Embaſſador, the Earle of

Lincolne, and M. Uizchamberlaine, &c. with whome ſhe entred
diſcourſe about waightie affairs: it chanced that one Thomas
Appeltree a yong man and ſervant to M. Henrie Carie, with. ij.
or. iij. children of hir Maieſties Chappel, & one other named Bar-
nard Acton, being in a boate on the Thames, rowing by & down
betwixt the places afozenamed, the afozeſaid Thomas Appeltree
had a Caliner or Harquebuſh, which he had thre or ſoure times
diſcharged with bullet, ſhooting at randome verie raſhly, who by
great miſfortune ſhot one of the water men being the ſecōd man
next vnto the bales of the ſaid Barge, labouring with his Oare,
which ſate within ſix ſoot of hir highnelle) cleane through both his
armes: the blow was ſo great and grieuous, that it moued him
out of his place, and forced him to crie and ſcritche out piteouſly,
ſuppoſing himſelf to be ſlaine, and ſaying he was ſhot thorow the
body. The man blēding abundantly, as though he had had a hū-
dred daggers thruſt into him, the Quēnes Maieſty ſhelwed ſuch
noble courage as is moſt wonderfull to be hearde and ſpoken of,
for beholding hym ſo maimed, and blēding in ſuche ſorte, ſhe
neuer baſhed thereat, but ſhelwed effectually a prudent and mag-
nanimous heart, & moſt curteouſly comforting the poore man, ſhe
had him be of good cheare, and ſayd he ſhoulde want nothing that
might be for his eaſe, commanding him to be couered till ſuch
time as he came to the ſhore, til which time he lay bathing in his
owne bloud, which might haue bene an occaſion to haue terrified
the eies of the beholders. But ſuch and ſo great was the courage
and magnanimitie of our dread and ſoueraigne Ladie, that it ne-
uer quayled. To be ſhort, this ſayd Thomas Appeltree and the
reſt were apprehended and brought beſore hir honorable Counſel
who with great grauitie and wiſedom imploied their times very
carefully, & with gret diligence examined the ſayd Appeltree and
a. ij. his

his companions, and finding the case most haples and wicked,
iustly pronounced against him the sentence of Death, and com-
mitted him to the Marshalsea in Southwarke, from whence the
Tuisday following he was brought throughe the Citie with the
Knight Marshals men, lead vp to the Tower hill, and so to Rad-
cliffe, vp to Blarke wall, and so downe to the water side, where
was a Gibet set vp directly placed betwixt Delforde and Græn-
wich, for the execution of this malefactor, who in tæde very
pitifully bewayled the offence he had committed, and as well in
prison as by the way prepared himselfe very penitently and wil-
lingly to offer his bodie to the death, loathing this world and the
pleasures of the same, and constantly by faith flette vnto IESVS
CHRIST, affirming that without him there was no saluation,
and often sayd and protested very vehemently, that Iesus Christ
the sonne of the liuing God, was his only hope & cosorte, in whose
pretious bloude he was purged and made cleane, and in him by
fayth he was fully assured, that his sinnes (wer they neuer so ma-
ny in number) should be freely forgiven and forgotten: such was
his immouable constancie, & so strong he was in CHRIST IESVS,
that although he confessed his imperfection to be such and so
great that of himself he was not worthy to lift vp his eyes to hea-
uen, yet by faith he was assured that though his life were wicked
and worthe the sentence of everlasting damnation, his Lorde
IESVS CHRIST his mercifull sauieur had for him satisfied the
lawe, pacified Gods indignation, made an agræment betwixt
God and him, to whome he was by grace reconciled, conceyued
and borne again, not according to the flesh, but in spirit by grace,
in the precious death and blei sheding of his Mediator, and in
him assured, that nerther sin, death nor all the power of hel should
harne him, but that his faith firmly fixed in that mightie conque-
ror that had querthzowen Sinne, subdued Death, and conuincd
Sathan, should be sufficient for him to combat and maintayne
fight against his enemies, which traueled for the bitter spoyle and
destruction of his body and soule, ouer whome in Christ his hope
persuaded him to triumph. But when he came to the place of exe-
cution, he fell on his knees, and desired all the people to pray with
him

him, where he berp deuoutly and with a constant courage prayed
in this wise : O bountifull Iesu, O sweete Iesu. &c. a necessarie
prayer to be sayde at the houre of Death : after this he sayde the
Lordes prayer, & then discoursed very godly, that the Lord Iesus
Christ was the rocke whereon he layde his foundation, and that
his only death and passion was the meane to wash away his sin-
nes and offences, and that he for him and al other sat on the right
hande of his heauenlie father, pleading and making continuall
intercession, representing his bloody and paineful wounds which
neuer coulde be dyed by, which being seene in the eyes of his glo-
rious maiestie, his anger was conuerted to loue : his surie, to
kindenesse and fatherlie pittie. Thus very godly he purposed to
smith his miserable and wretched lyfe, and so prepared himself to
ascende and goe by the ladder, and being on the same, he tourned
himself, and spake to the people as followeth : Good people I am
come hither to die, but G O D is my iudge, I neuer in my lyfe
intended hurt to the Quenes most excellent Maiesty, nor meant
the harme of any creature, but I pray to God with all my heart,
long to prosper and keepe hir highnesse in health, who blesse and
defende hir from all perils and dangers, who prosper hir in al hir
affaires, and blesse hir most honorable counsell, giuing them grace
to doe all things to the glorie of G O D and the benefite of this
realme : But of all things, I am most sorie for my offence, and
wofully bewaile the same : and more, I am penitent and sorie for
my good mayster, M. Henrie Carie, who hath bene so grieved for
my fault, suffering rebuke for the same : I woulde to God I had
neuer bene borne that haue so grienously offended him. And with
that the teares gusht out of his eyes very fast. This sayd, he per-
suaded al men to serue God and to take an ensample by him, and
euery night and morning moued the deuoutely to say the Lordes
prayer. And as the executioner as one greedy of his pray, had put
the roape about his necke, the people cried, stay, stay, stay, and
with that came the right honorable sir Christopher Hatton Chi-
chamberlayne to hir highnesse, who enquired what he had con-
fessed, and being certified as is befoze exp:essed, he bailed his bo-
net, and declared that the Quenes maiestie had sent him thither

both to make the cause open to them how haynous and gréuous
the offence of the saide Thomas Appeltree was, and further to
signifie to him his gracious pleasure: & so continued his message,
as ye may read it printed by it self, and annexed to this discourse.
Which when he had declared, the hangman was commaunded
to take the roape from his necke, cleane contrarie to his expecta-
tion, & I think (as was seene to the people) soyr to lose his pray:
but whether it were so or not, whether that Appeltree had cause
to be ioyful or no, I leaue to your iudgements, who being come
downe from the ladder, receiued his pardon, and gaue **GD** and
the Prince praise, for so great a benefit as he had by his most gra-
tious bountie receiued. This done, **M.** Wychamberlaine sayde:
GD people pray for the Quéenes maiestie, and then was this
prayer sayde, which is vsually readde (for the preservation of his
Maiestie) in the church:

O almightie and euerliuing God, the Lord of Lords, and king
of kings, which dost from thy throne beholde all the dwellers of
the earth, most hartily we beseech thee with thy fauor to behold
our most gracious soueraigne Ladie Queene Elizabeth. &c.

Wherevnto all the people ioyfully accorded to saye **AMEN**,
crying, **GD** saue the Quéene, and casting by their cappes.

Thus was the dead man restozed to lyfe, and brought backe
to the Marshalsea againe, even as he was led thence to the place
of execution, where he by the way moste ioyfullye prayed for the
securitie of the Quéenes Maiestie.

Loe thus good reader hast thou heard discoursed vnto thee, the
offence of Thomas Appeltree, iustly condemned for his trespasse
to die the death, and most gratioously (notwithstanding the great-
nesse of his crime) by the singular mercy and bountie of our bread
and soueraigne Ladie Quéene **ELIZABETH** preserved, for the
which cause and al others, like faithfull and true subiects strongly
armed with an earnest looe, let vs not cease to pray to y^e Almightie
with loyal & faithfull hearts for his highnesse safegarde, who
with his mightie and outstretched hande protect and deliuer by
as he hath done wonderfully from the handes of all his enemies,
and so mercifully loke vpon vs his subiectes, that to our continual
ioyes

open, the aduancement of liues, religion and vertue, the fal and
merethrow of all iniquitie: we may possesse the presence of this
our royall virgin Queene euen to the coming of Iesus Christe
in the cloudes of the skies: whereunto let all that feare God and
loue the Quenes maiestie from the bottome of their hartes, say
A M E N.

The night before he should suffer, he wrote this prayer follo-
wing with his own hand, and on the backside of the paper wher-
in the same was set downe, he wrote these wordes:

To the Quenes most excellent Maiestie, whom I beseech God
long to continue ouer the Realme of England in prosperous feli-
citie.

This was the title.

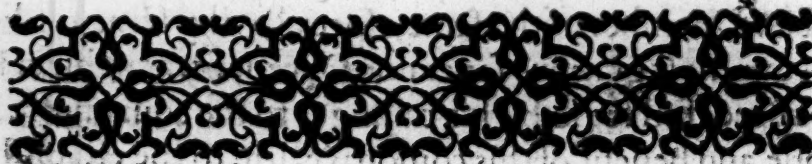
**The humble prayer of Thomas Appeltree,
yeelding himselfe to die, as innocent from**

*any pretended cause, as the Infant this
night borne.*



S I here praie earnestlye to God the Father, who
by his diuine prouidence hath ordained mee to
come to this place, I do not pray only for my self,
but also for the whole Church, especially such as
be persecuted for thy word: O Lord graunt vnto
them, that whether it be by death or life, they may
glorifie thy name to their liues end: be merciful vnto this Church
of England and Ireland, we beseech thee good Lord, and preserue
euery part and member of the same, especially thy seruauant E L I-
Z A B E T H our most gracious soueraine Queene: graunt hir al such
giftes as be needfull for so high calling, to the aduancemente
of thy glorie, and benefit of this common wealth, to the establishing
of a perfect gouernement of thy church, according to the rule of
thy blessed worde, to the rooting out of all superstition and reli-
ques of Antichrist, to the gouerning of hir subiectes in all peace &
tranquilitie: defende hir o Lord from all conspiracies, treasons &
rebellions,

wing hyt authoritie to come from thy heauenlye maiestie, that they
may with obedience humbly obey hir in thee and for thee. O
Lord preferue the whole counsaile, and the Magistrates of the
Realme, that being lightened by thy holy spirit, they may defende
thy truthe, suppress wickednesse, and maintaine equitie: beholde
all the preachers and pastours of the whole world, blesse their la-
bours, increase the number of the same, ouer euery Church a pain-
full watchman, and remove all idle lubbers, confound the power
of Antichrist, and turne the hartes of the people, that they maye
be obedient to thy truth. Blessed be the two Vniuersities of Ox-
ford and Cambridge, with all the Scholes of learning, and the stu-
dentes in the same: beholde good Lord all those that be afflicted
with any kinde of crosse, that they may profite by thy correction
in newnesse of life, also beseeching God to sende hir maiestie
no worse nor disobedient subiect, than in my hearte and
minde (God is my witnesse) til this innocent cause did
chaunce towards me, I haue bin, whiche is the
first offence that euer I committed. And so, in
whose name I was baptised, & in whom
only I hope to be saued at the day
of iudgement, I trust the Lord
will receyue my Soule
into heauen.



Clinton, Purser & Arnold,
to their Countrey men wheresoeuer.

Wherein is described by their own hands
their vnfeigned penitence for their offences
past : their patience in welcoming their
Death, & their duetiful minds to-
wardes her most excellent
Maiestie.



L O N D O N
Imprinted by Iohn Wolfe and are to be
sold at the middle shop in the Poultry, ioyning
to S. Mildredes Church.